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## Bureau of Special Education FY'14 Memo #22

Date: February 4, 2014

To: Superintendents

Special Education Directors

From: Office of the Commissioner of Education

Division of Educational Improvement

Bureau of Special Education

RE: IMPORTANT UPDATES RELATED TO:

2014 New Hampshire Parent Involvement Survey and 2014 Post School Outcomes Survey

- Gibson Consulting Group, Inc. has been contracted to administer the NH Parent Involvement and Post School Outcome Surveys for FY'15 and FY'16.
- The look-and-feel of surveys and materials are being updated (content will remain unchanged).
- Gibson will provide additional outreach to increase parent and student response rates.
- Dissemination of results is being improved.

The New Hampshire Department of Education is conducting its annual Parent Involvement survey (for parents who have a student receiving special education services) and Post School Outcomes Survey (for students with IEPs who exited during the 2012-13 school year).

The New Hampshire Department of Education in collaboration with Gibson is updating the look-and-feel of materials and improving the efficiency of our survey administration processes, in efforts to decrease the burden of administration on you, and to obtain higher response rates from parents and exited students. They will also be improving the reporting process and equipping school districts with usable survey results. Following are key points about changes to survey processes this year under Gibson's leadership:

For the Parent Involvement survey (February through May):

- Gibson will contact you via email during the first two weeks of February to collect counts of the numbers of surveys you will need this year.
- The process of survey administration will be similar to that used in prior years. Gibson will be updating materials and improving the clarity of instructions and usability of survey materials.

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- Gibson will be making the online survey more accessible for parents, and will be asking school districts to more widely publicize the survey URL (<u>www.NHparent.com</u>).
- Gibson staff will provide extensive support to SAU and district contacts during the survey window.
- Gibson is working closely with the NHDOE to improve the dissemination of survey results. We are
  exploring the possibility of disseminating results at the school level, and creating an online tool
  to explore survey results in efforts to provide more actionable data to schools and districts.

For the Post School Outcomes survey (May to August)

- Gibson will be improving the look and feel of the survey and related materials.
- Instructions will clarify that parents can complete the survey on behalf of their student.
- One or two additional questions may be added to improve the usefulness of data that is collected.

More information will arrive shortly. Cheyanne Rolf or Amie Rapaport, Ph.D. from Gibson Consulting will be in touch with you in the coming days.

AJ:MTL:BJR